

Information on Filing an Immigrant Visa Petition for Spouses of American Citizens

Step I. Present Initial Documentation

If you and your spouse are both residents of Qatar (for at least 6 months) you may file the I-130 (petition for spouse) with us. **Before any filing appointment can be given, you must submit the following to the Embassy 10am-12:30 pm Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs:**

- 1. A completed <u>I-130 petition</u>
- 2. One (01) biographical information Form G-325 for both you and your spouse
- 3. Your original marriage certificate as well as any original divorce or death certificates with copies of each (we will verify the copies and return the originals to you)
- 4. Proof of citizenship of U.S. Citizen (passport)
- 5. Proof of the marriage and the husband/wife relationship. (For example: wedding albums, email and/or telephone records and any other proof that the marriage is genuine.)
- 6. Two (02) photos of your spouse and yourself (one of each) http://qatar.usembassy.gov/qatar/photo_req.html
- 7. Information on when you are planning to return to the U.S. to live

You can find all the forms you need at the following websites: http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/index.htm

The complete instructions for filing the I-130 can be found at http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/files/i-130.pdf
The G-325 Form can be found at: http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/q-325.htm

Once the above documents are reviewed you will called in <u>approximately</u> 2-3 weeks time to be scheduled for a filing appointment.

Step II. Appointment for filing the I-130 Petition

Only the American Citizen who is filing for their spouse is required to attend the petition filing appointment, however it is preferable if spouse and any children attend as well.

At this stage you will need to pay a filing fee of \$185 (or 675 QR).

Step III. Supporting Documents

At this time you will need to gather together the following documents:

- 1. A passport valid for travel to the United States and with a validity date of at least six months beyond the date the applicant plans to enter the United States.
- 2. Birth certificate of immigrating Spouse with original and copy
- 3. Marriage certificate

- 4. Police certificate from all places immigrating spouse lived since age 16 for more than 6 months (For information on obtaining police clearances from foreign countries, please visit the <u>reciprocity tables</u> located at: http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/reciprocity/index.htm)
- 5. Medical examination of immigrating spouse (from US Embassy panel physician at the Doha Clinic). A letter addressed to the Doha Clinic specifying what exam you will require will be given to you during the filing appointment. You must take this letter to the Doha Clinic in order to complete your exam.
- 6. Evidence of financial support. A completed Form I-864 Affidavit of Support from petitioner/sponsor is required with accompanying tax returns for the last three years and original W-2 forms for these years. If the petitioner/sponsor's income does not meet 125% poverty guidelines, you will be required to have a joint-sponsor. The joint sponsor will fill out a separate I-864 with accompanying tax returns and W-2 forms. Go to http://uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/i-864pkg.htm for more information on the I-864 and http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/info/info_1327.html for a listing of the poverty guidelines.
- 7. Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien Registration, <u>Form DS-230</u>, both Part I and Part II. This form is found at: http://foia.state.gov/FORMS/visa/ds0230.pdf
- 8. Two visa photos of immigrant visa applicant.
- 9. Proof of the marriage and the husband/wife relationship. (You may want to bring the same proof you presented in the filing appointment along with any other proof you think may be relevant.)

Note: Documents in foreign languages should be translated.

The above documents can be submitted to the Embassy 10am-12:30 pm Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs <u>without appointment</u>. **Once these documents are submitted, you will be called for the final interview**. The length of time until the final interview will be approximately 2-3 weeks from the date <u>all</u> of the above documents are filed. If any of these documents are missing you will not be considered for an interview appointment.

Step IV. Interview

During the interview only the foreign spouse is required to attend but the American spouse may also wish to be present.

 At the interview you will be required to pay an immigrant-processing fee of \$380 (or 1,387 QR.)

At this stage you may again be asked to submit additional document at the discretion of the Consular Officer. No adjudication decision will be made until these additional documents are submitted.

After completion of the interview, if favorable, you will be issued the visa within **approximately one week** following the interview.

<u>Please note</u>: At any of the above stages, you may be asked for additional documentation not listed above. The request of this documentation is at the discretion of the consular officer. If the Consular Officer feels that additional documentation is warranted in order to prove the relationship such requests will be considered an essential part of the immigrant case file. Failure to produce such documentation may result in the return of the immigrant visa petition.